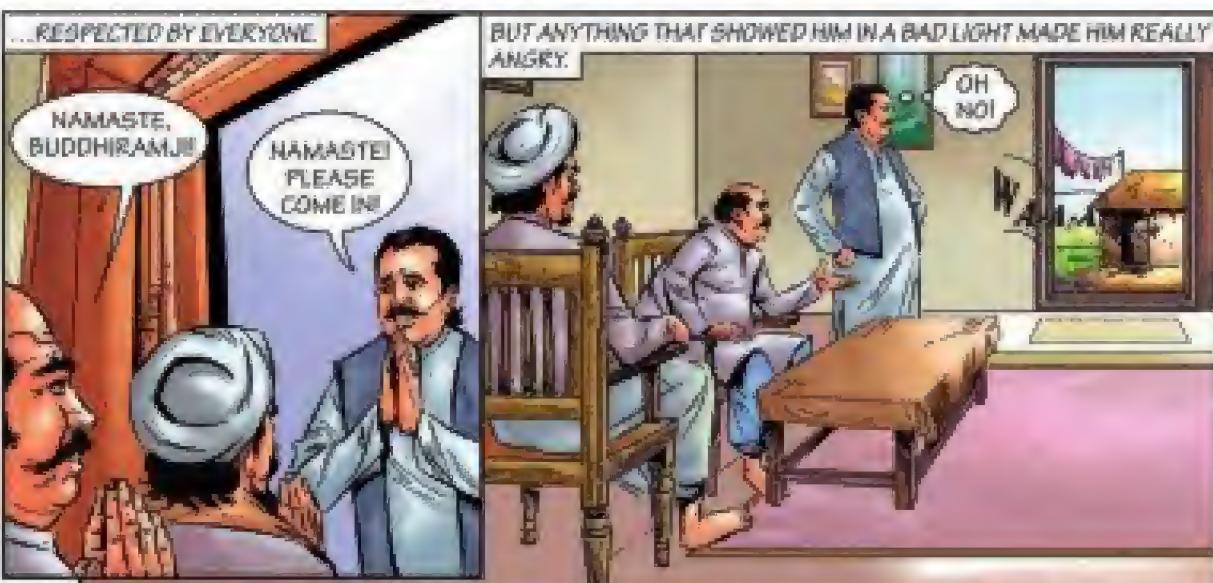
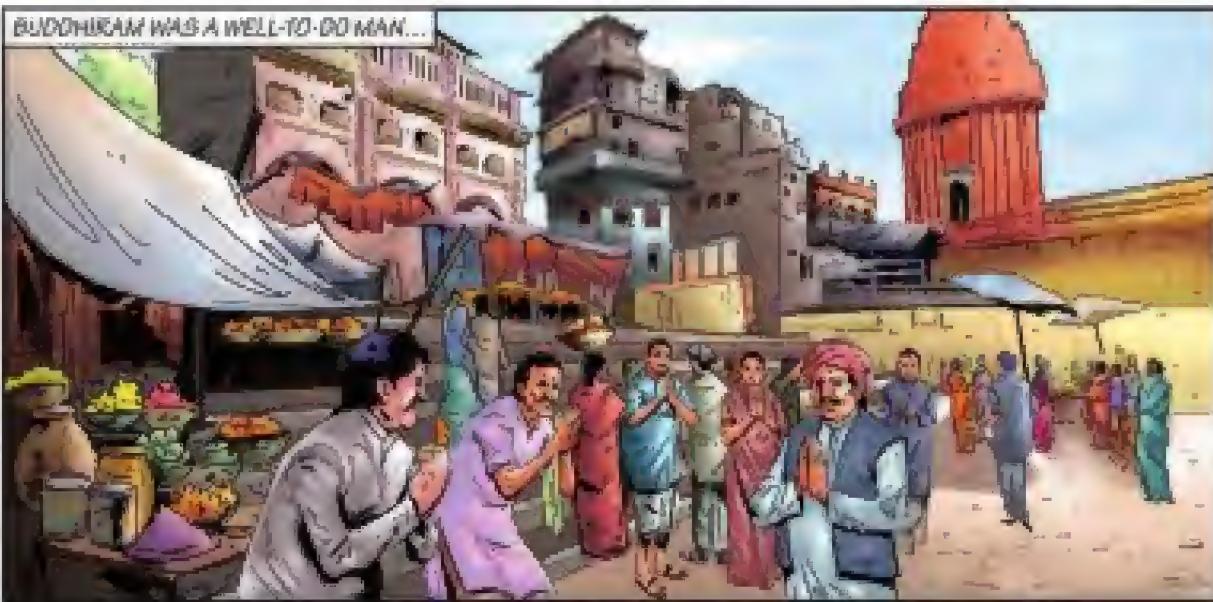
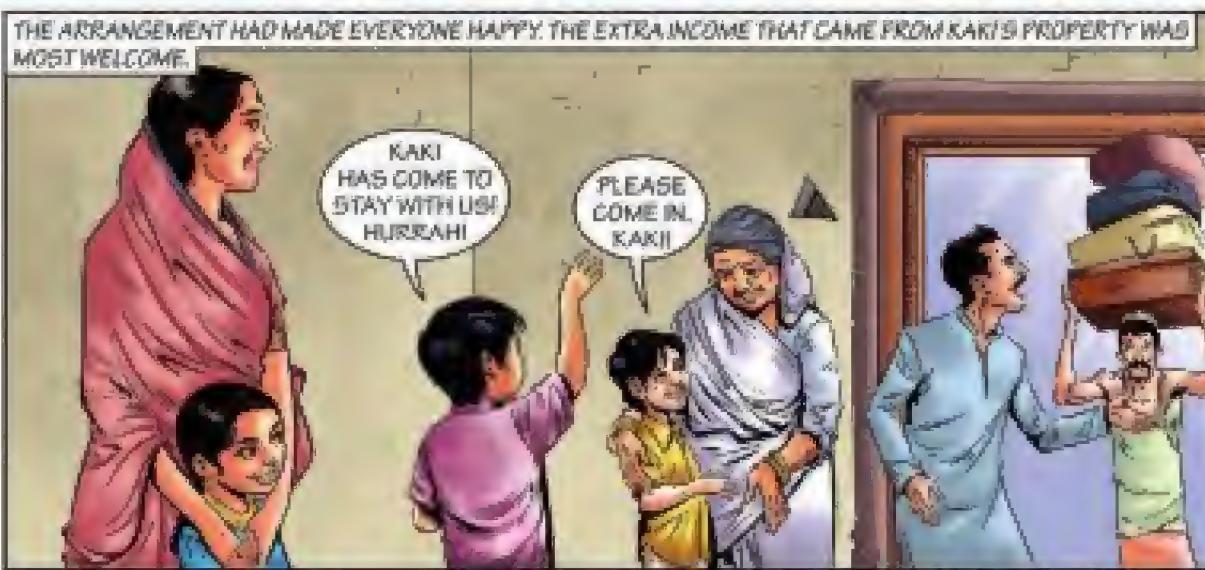
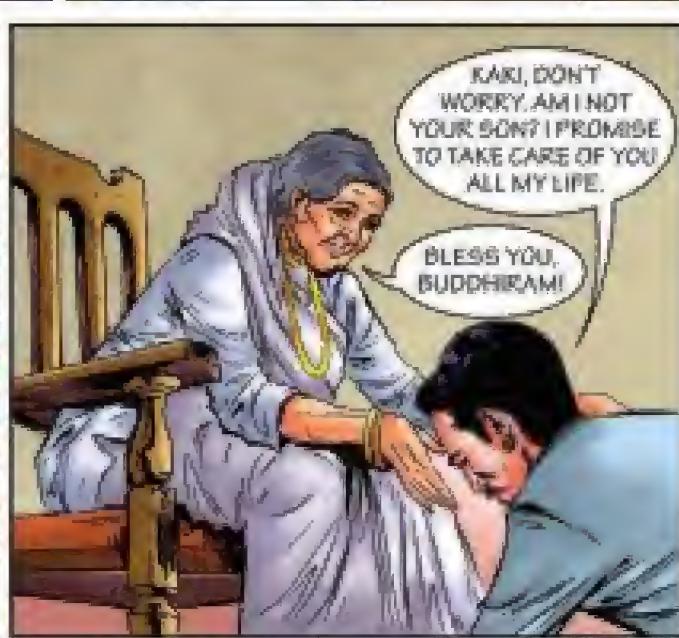
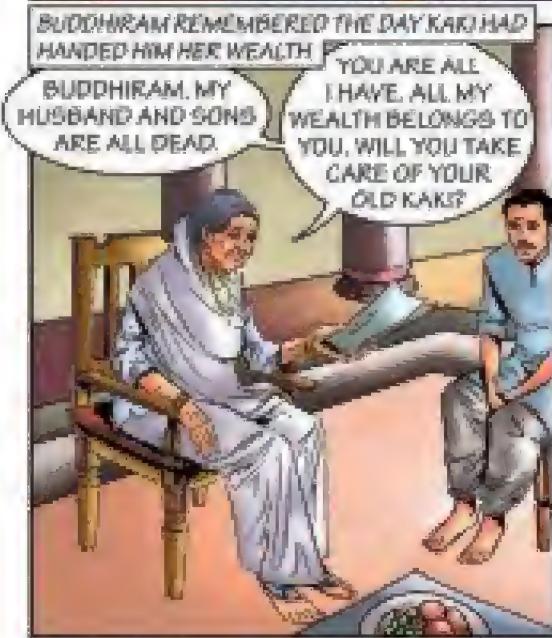
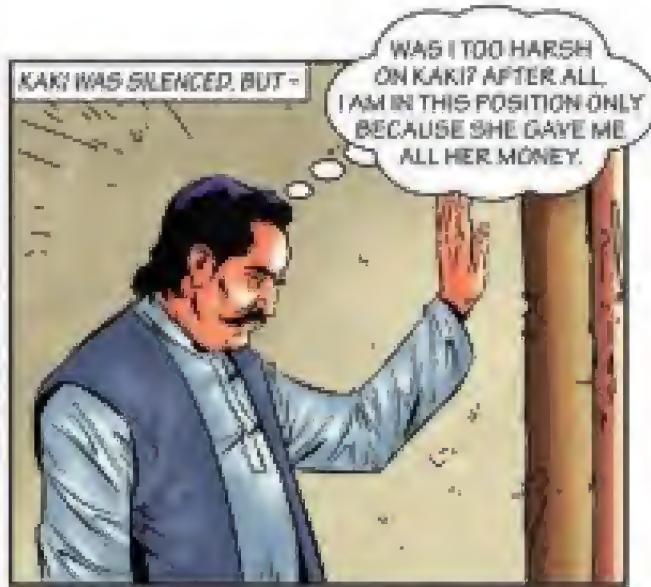
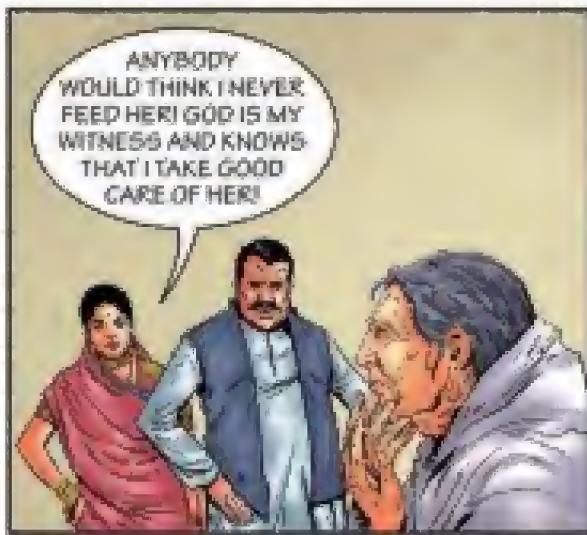


# **BUDHI KAKI OR THE AGED AUNT**





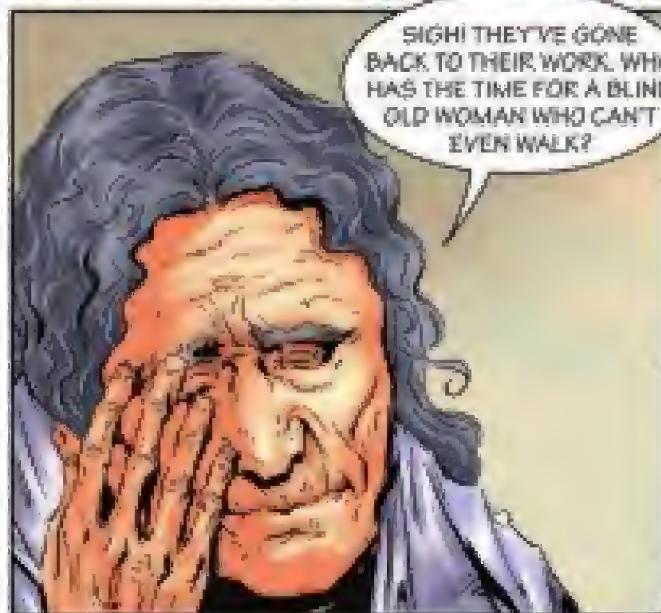
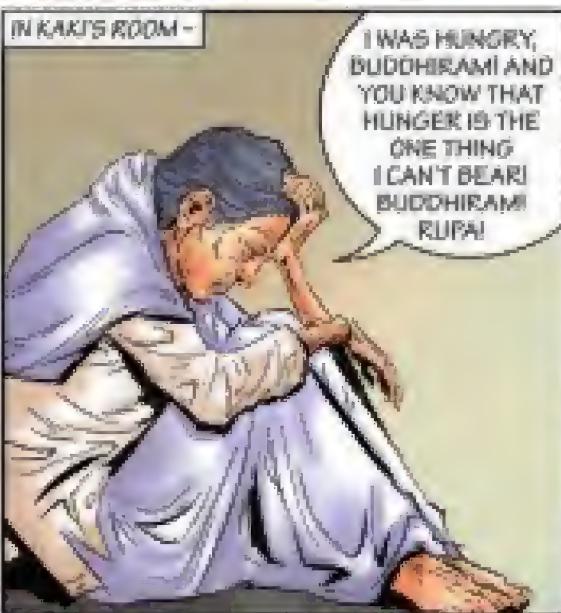
FATHER'S BROTHER'S WIFE



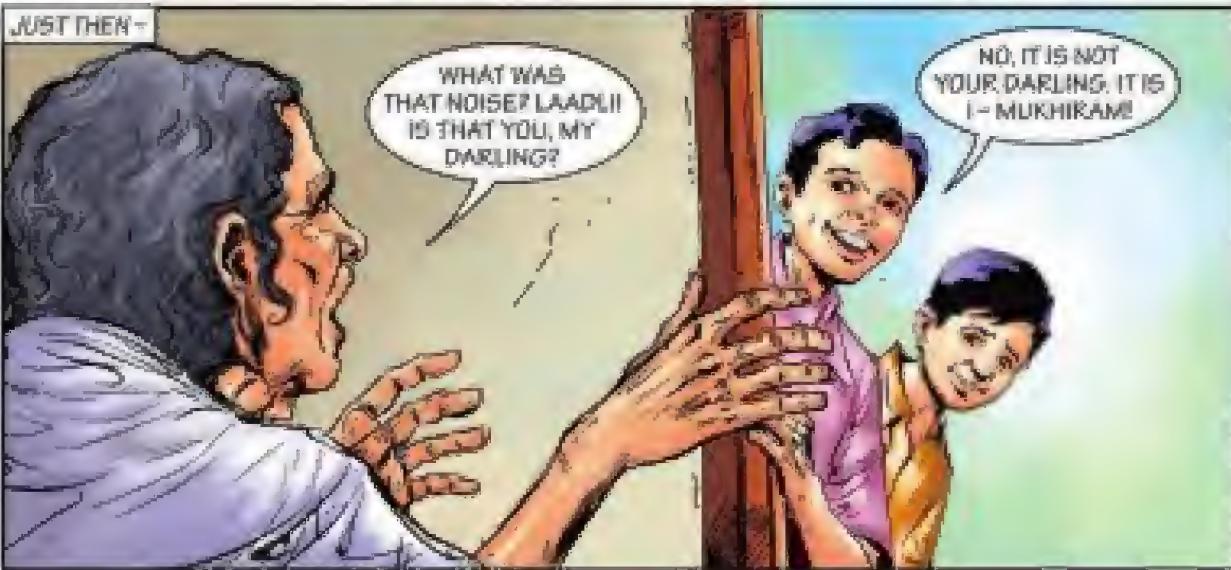
PROMISES ARE EASIER MADE THAN KEPT. BUDDHIRAMI WAS NOT A BAD MAN BUT THE EFFORT WAS TOO MUCH FOR HIM. KAKI SOON FOUND HERSELF COMPLETELY NEGLECTED.

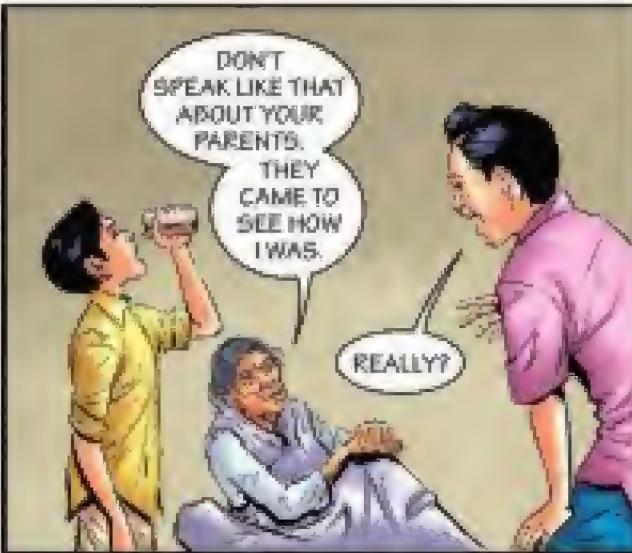
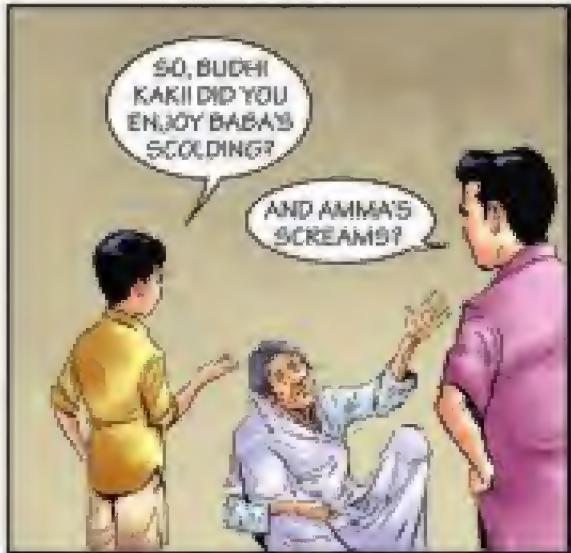


IN KAKI'S ROOM -



JUST THEN -

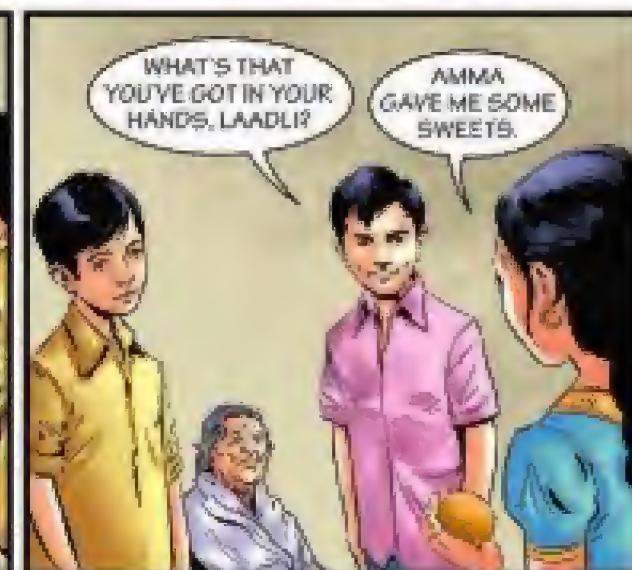
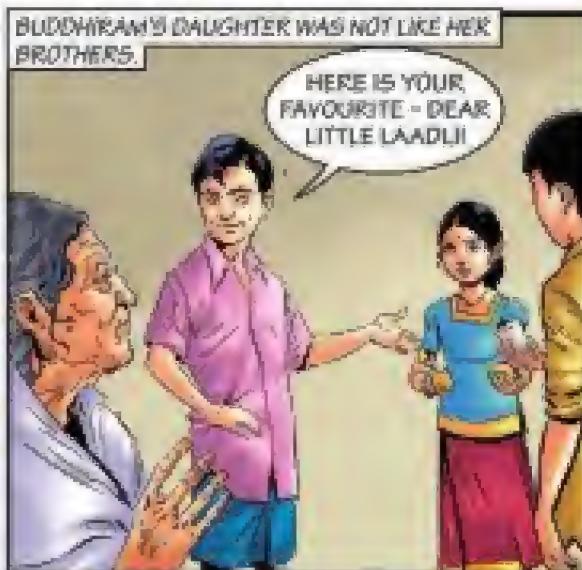


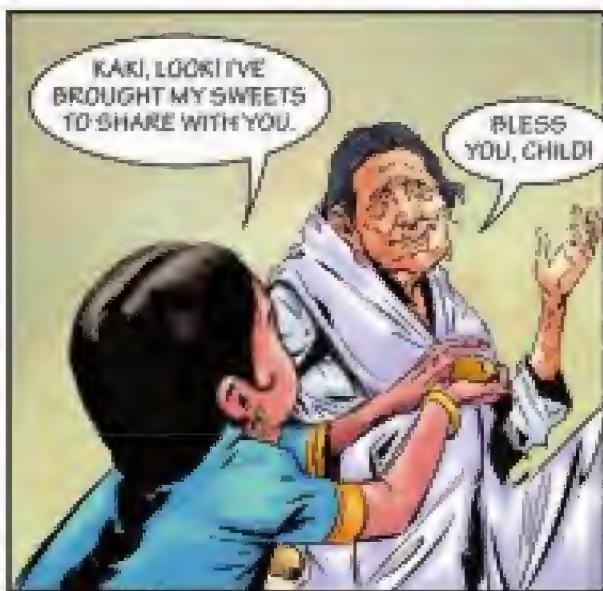
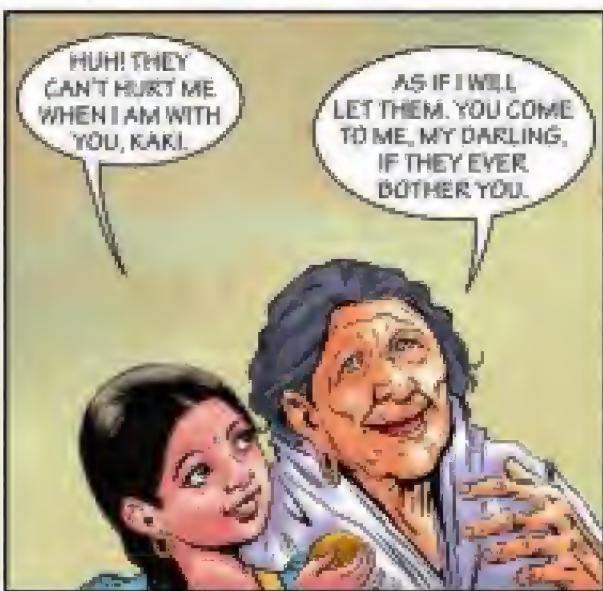
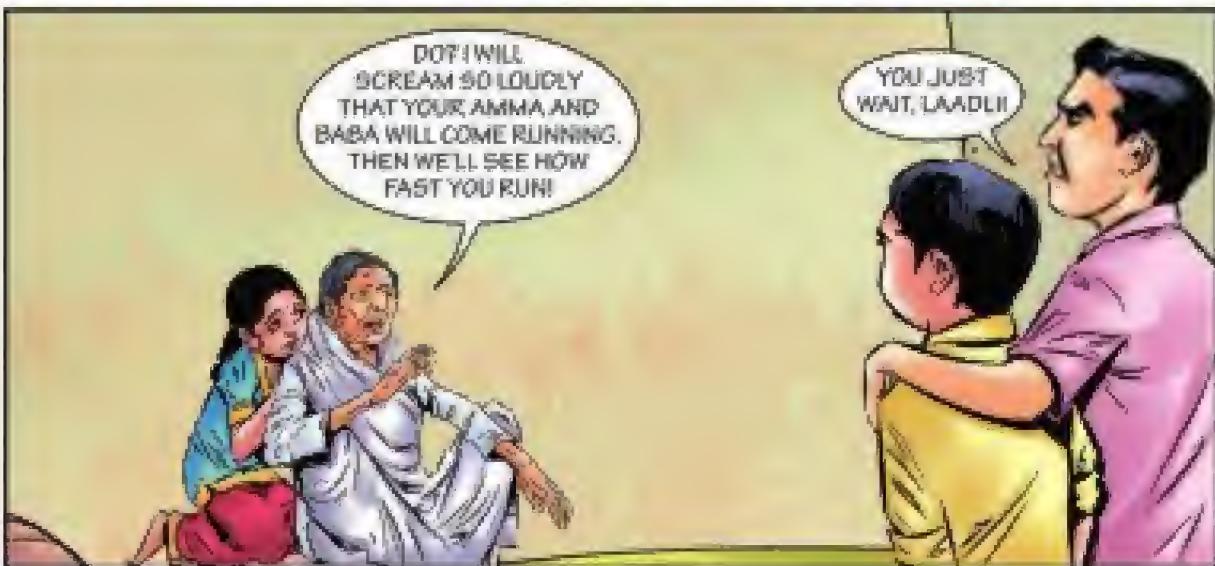
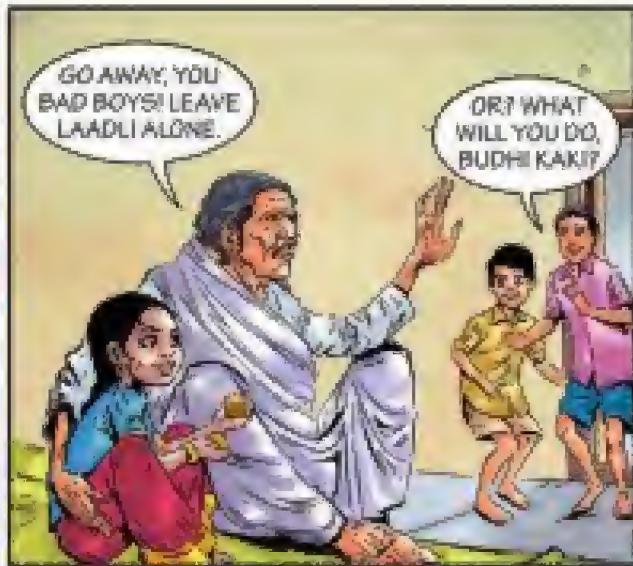
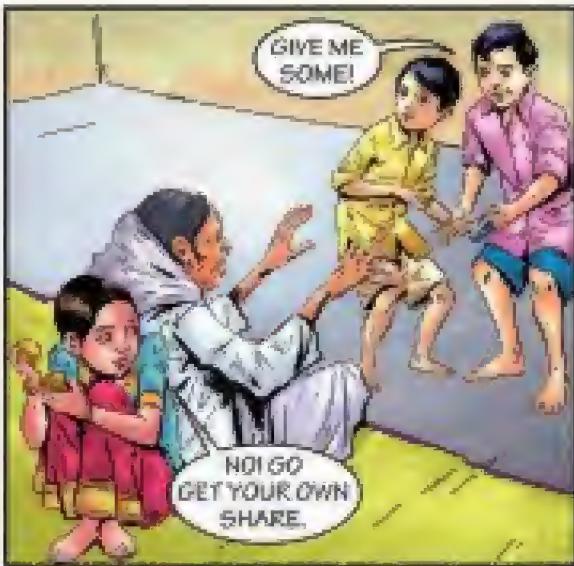


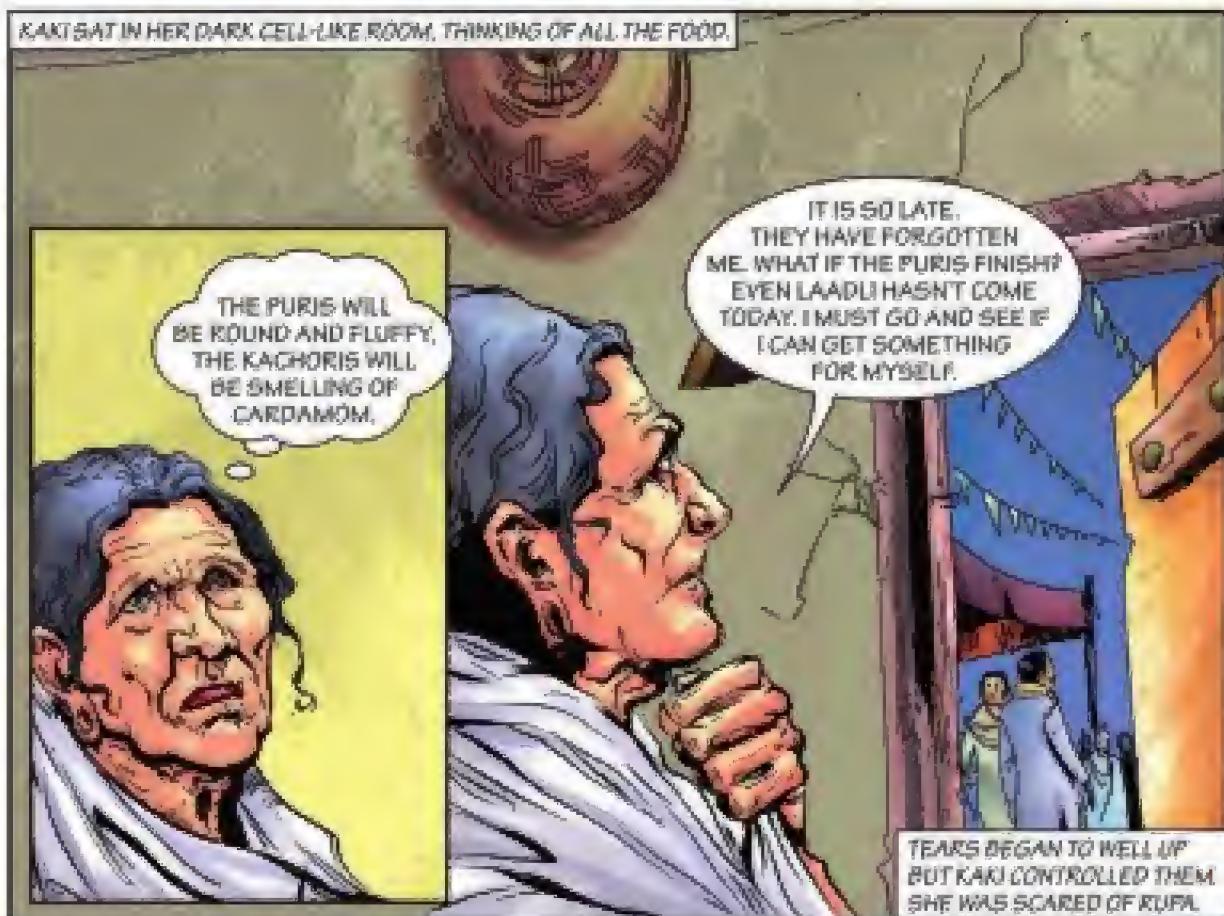
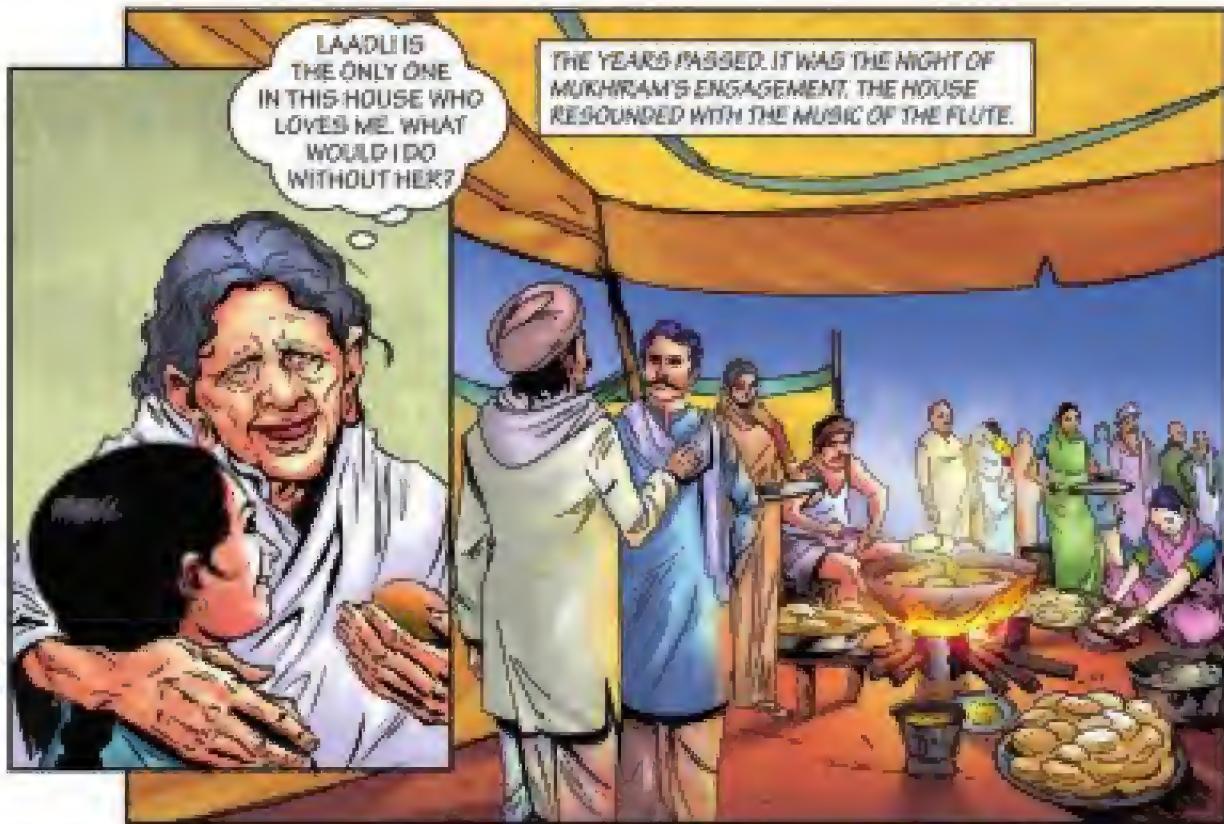
THE BEHAVIOUR OF THEIR PARENTS HAD INFLUENCED THE BOYS.



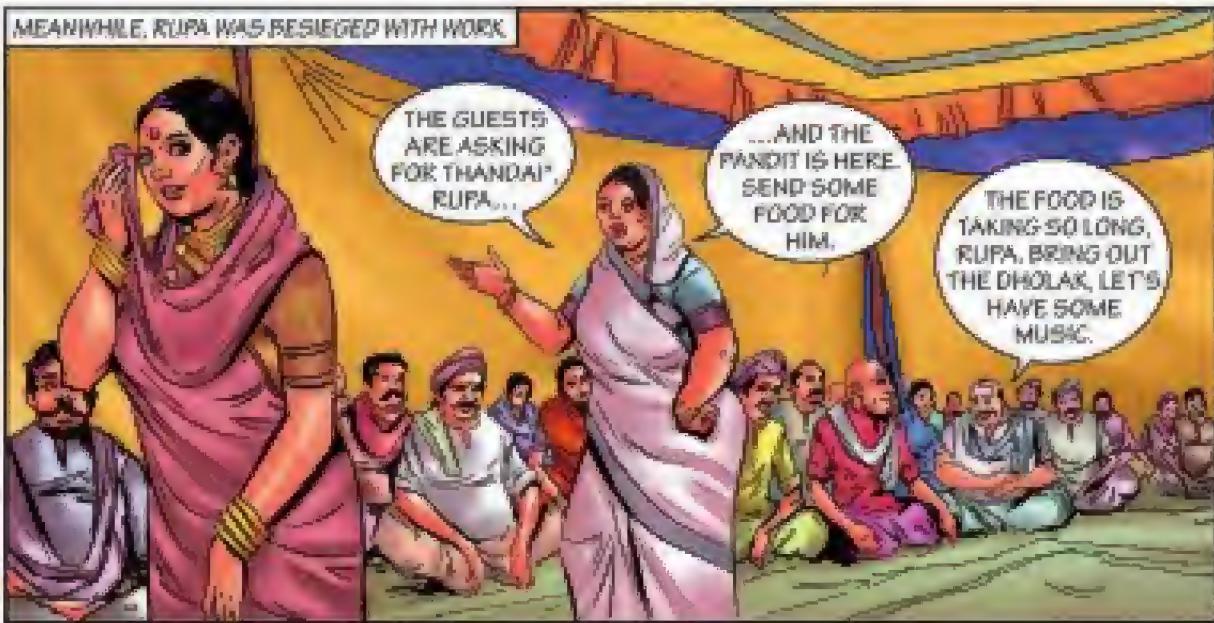
THEY WOULD OFTEN TROUBLE AND TEASE KARL



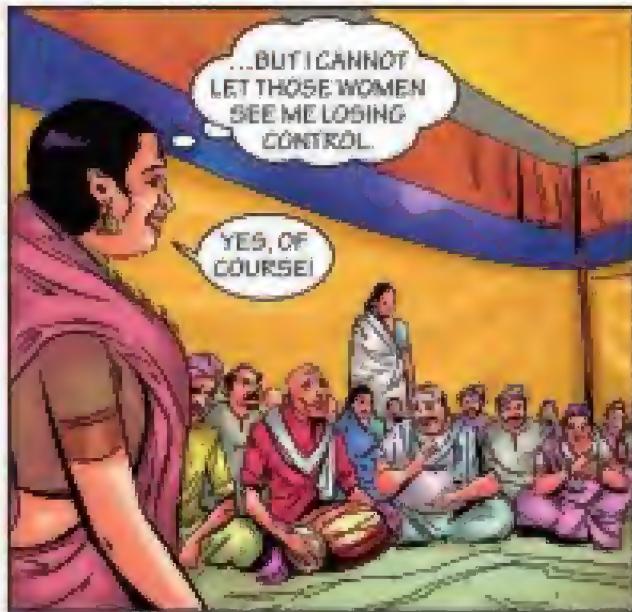
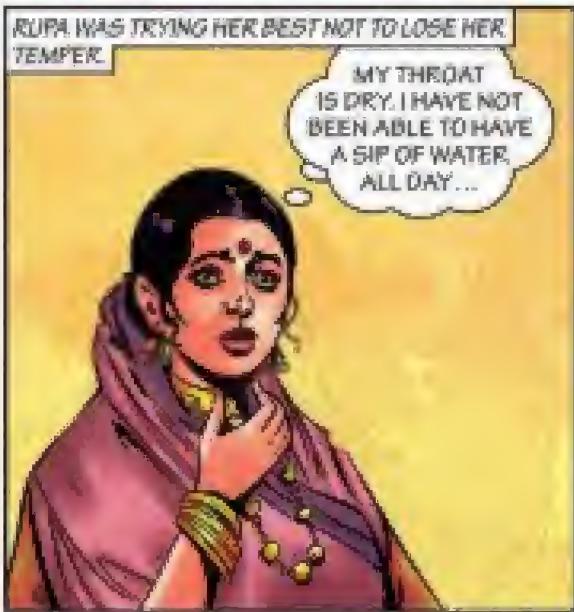




MEANWHILE, RUPA WAS BESIEGED WITH WORK.



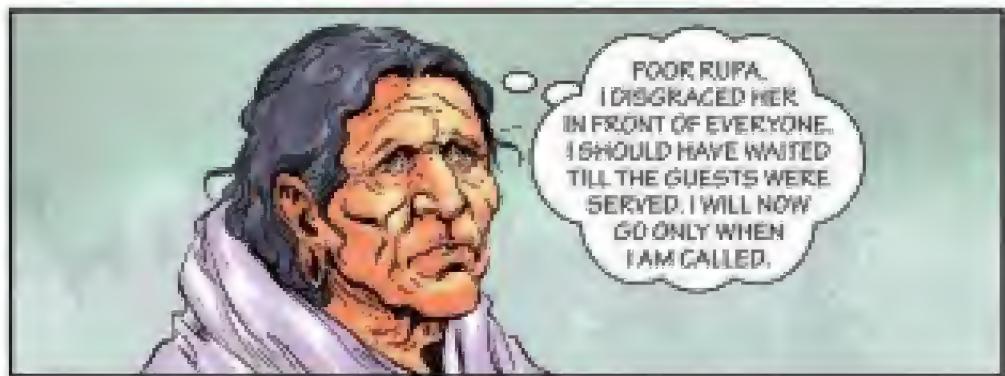
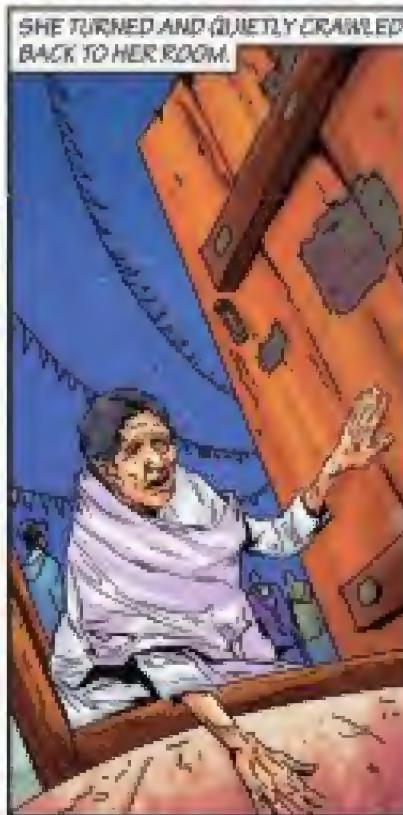
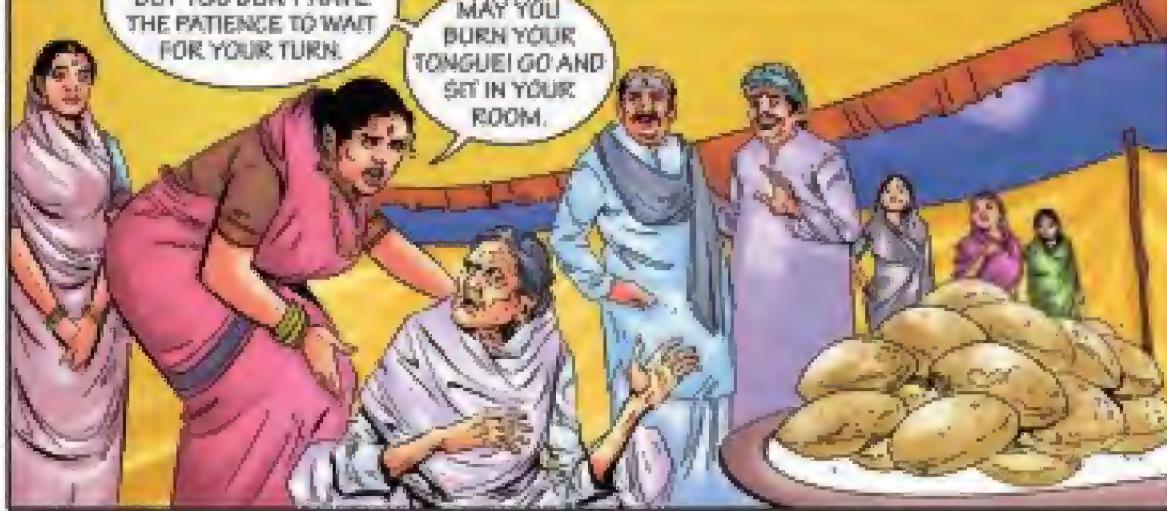
RUPA WAS TRYING HER BEST NOT TO LOSE HER TEMPER.

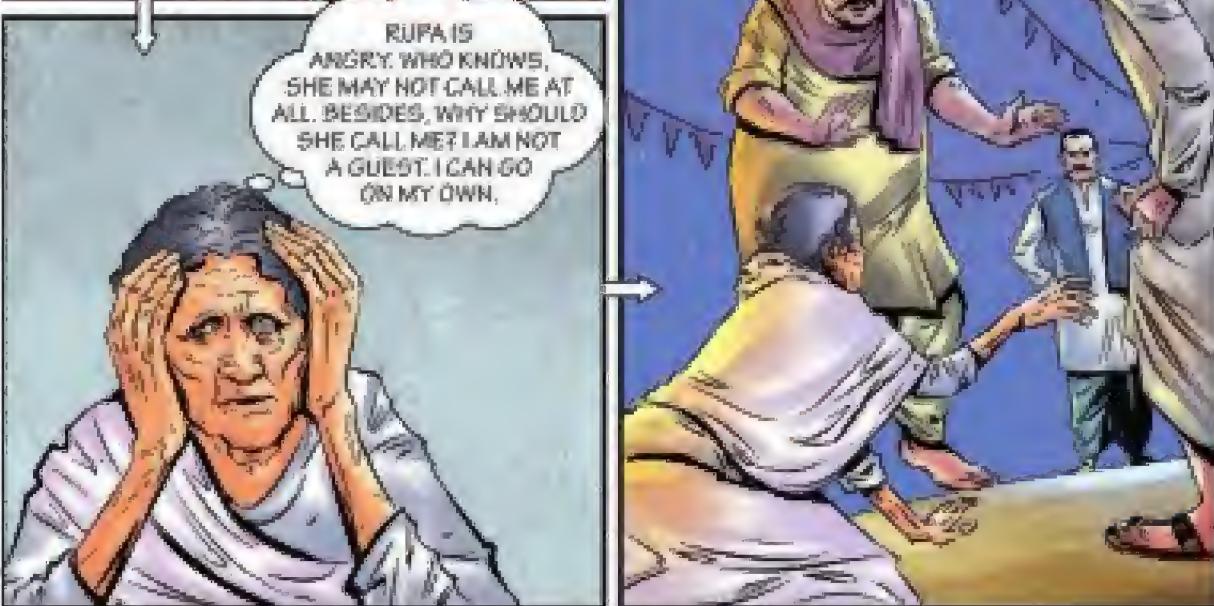


WHEN RUPA REACHED THE COOKING AREA -



\*A COLD DRINK PREPARED WITH MILK, ALMONDS, ROSE PETALS, ETC.





BUDDHIRAM WAS FURIOUS.

COME HERE, YOU!

WHY CAN'T WE  
GIVE KAKI LOTS  
OF PURIS TO EAT?  
WHY CAN'T SHE EAT  
BEFORE THE  
GUESTS DO?

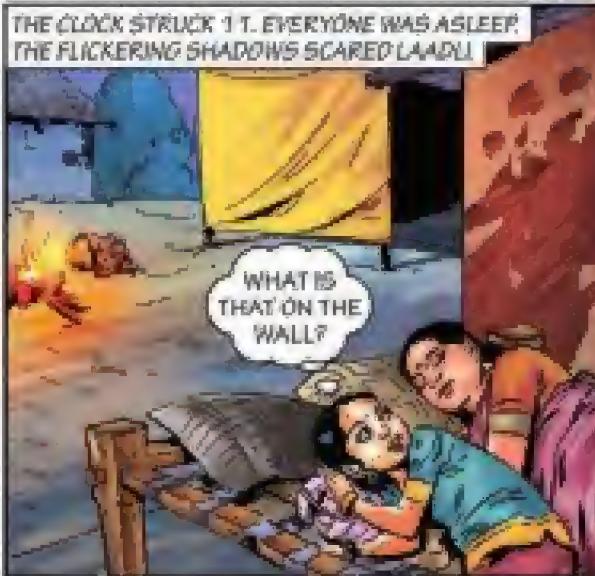
AFTER THE GUESTS, THE FAMILY ATE AND THEN THE MUSICIANS,  
THE SERVANTS AND THE POOR PEOPLE FROM THE VILLAGE.

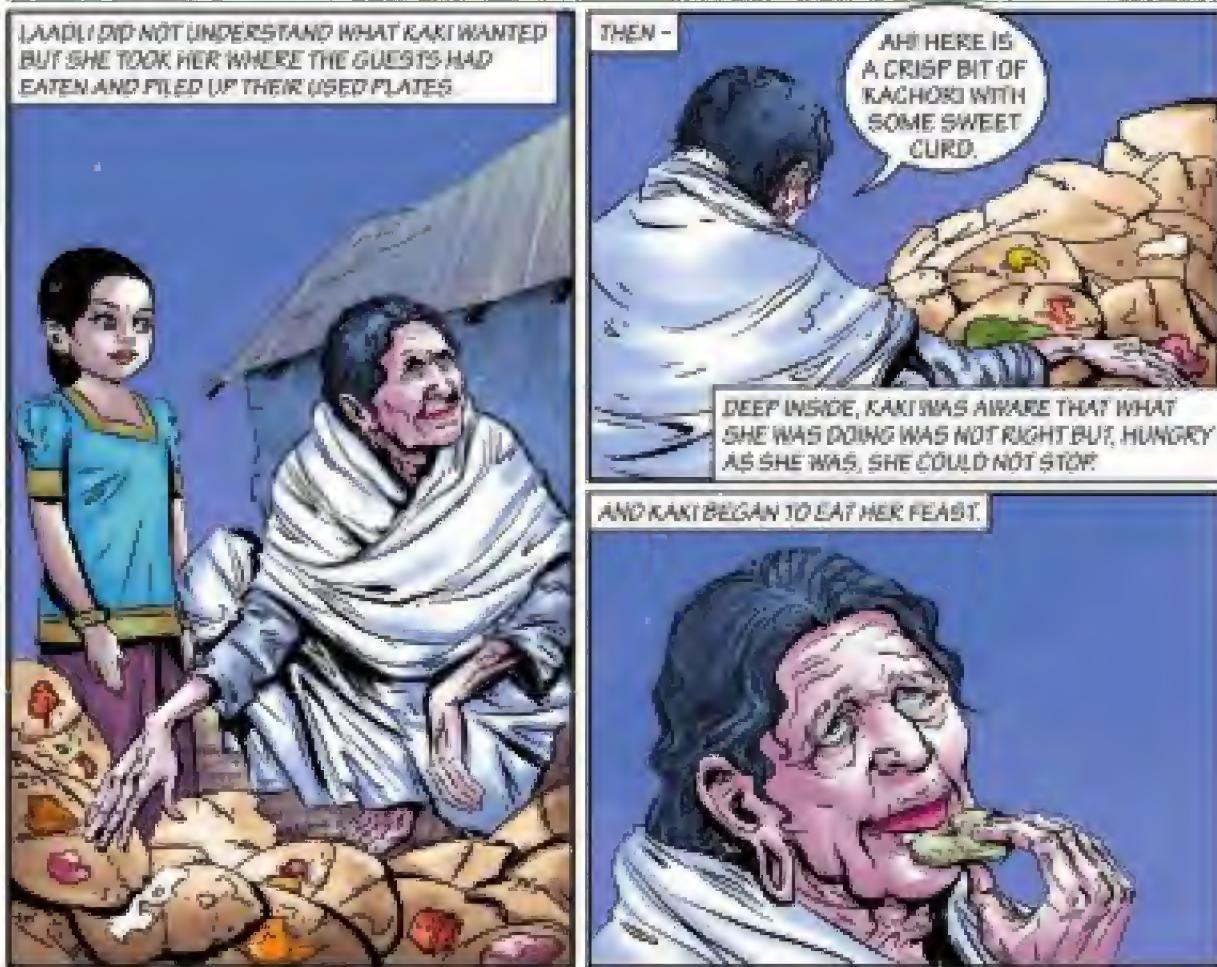
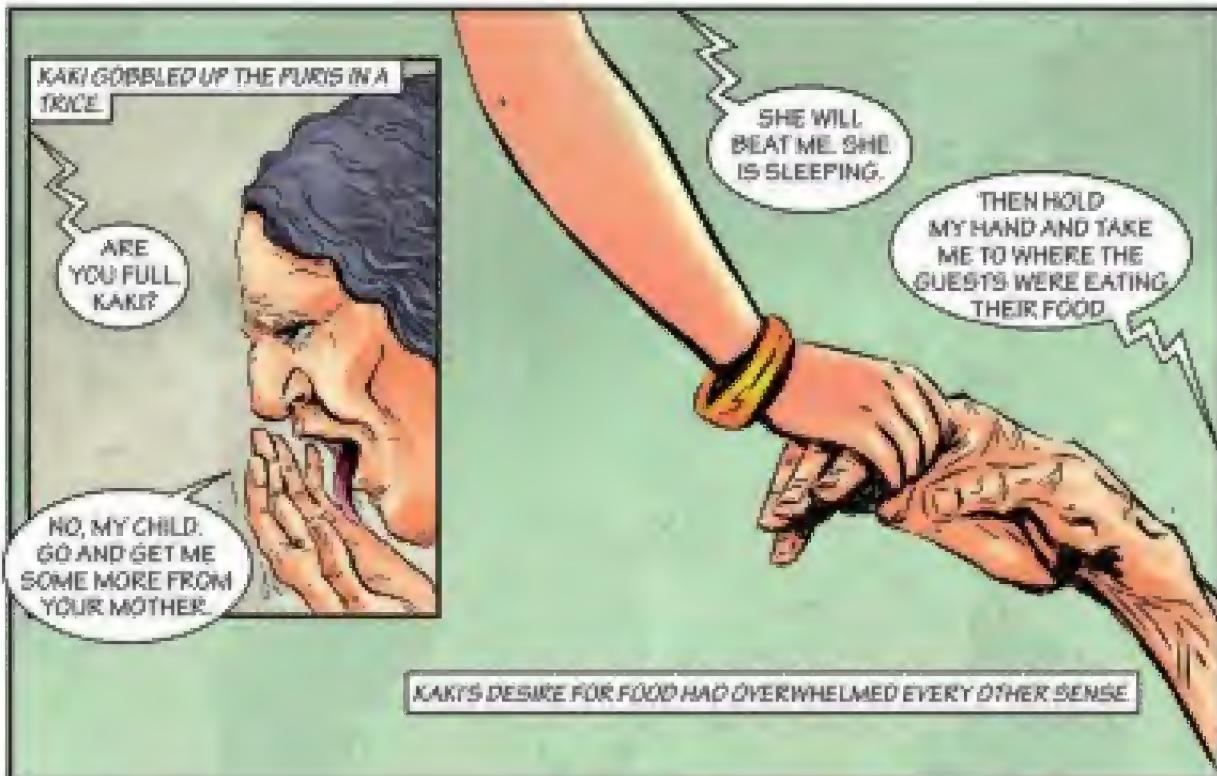
NO ONE CALLED KAKI. BUDDHIRAM AND KUPIL HAD DECIDED TO PUNISH HER.

ONLY LITTLE LAADU WORRIED ABOUT HER.

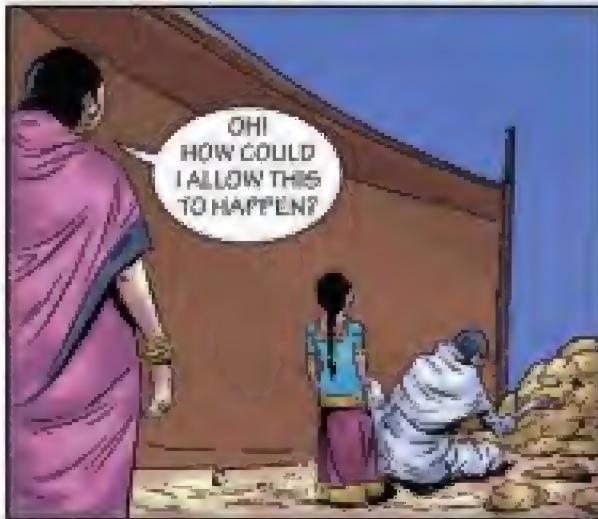
I WILL KEEP  
MY PURIS AND  
GIVE ALL OF THEM  
TO KAKI AS SOON  
AS I CAN.

THEN SHE  
WILL HUG ME AND  
GIVE ME LOTS  
OF LOVE.



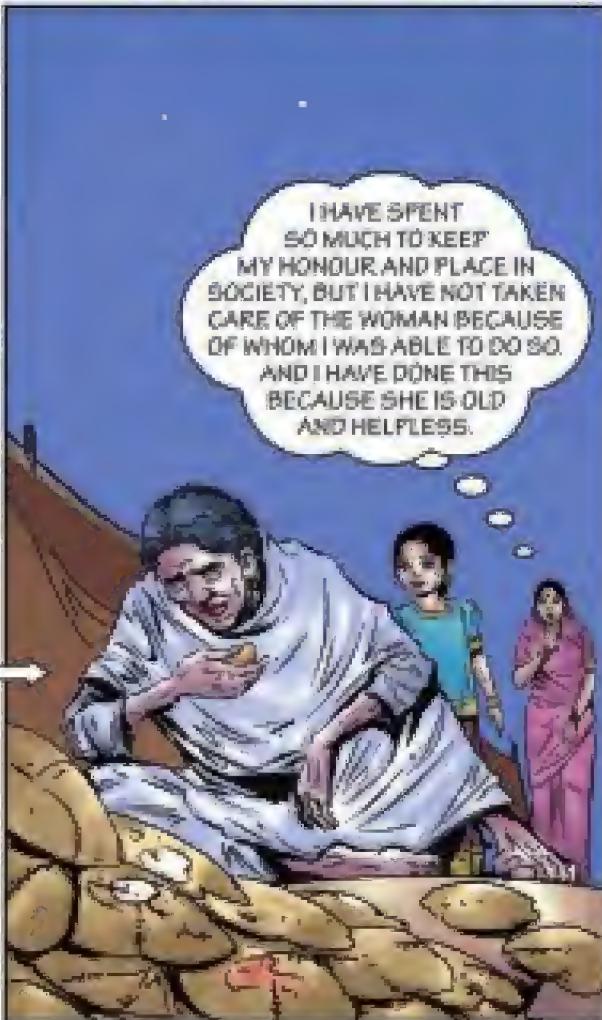
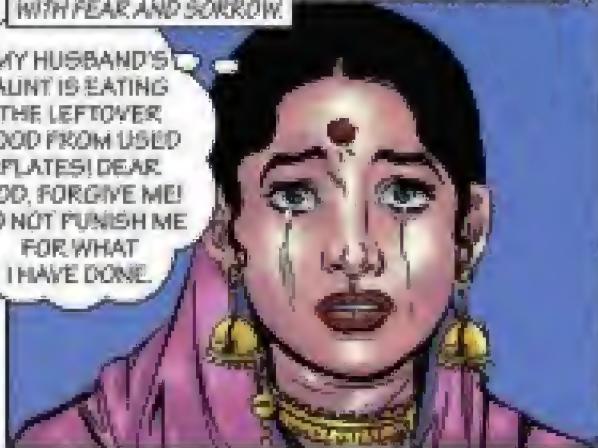


RUPA STIRRED IN HER SLEEP AND WOKE UP.

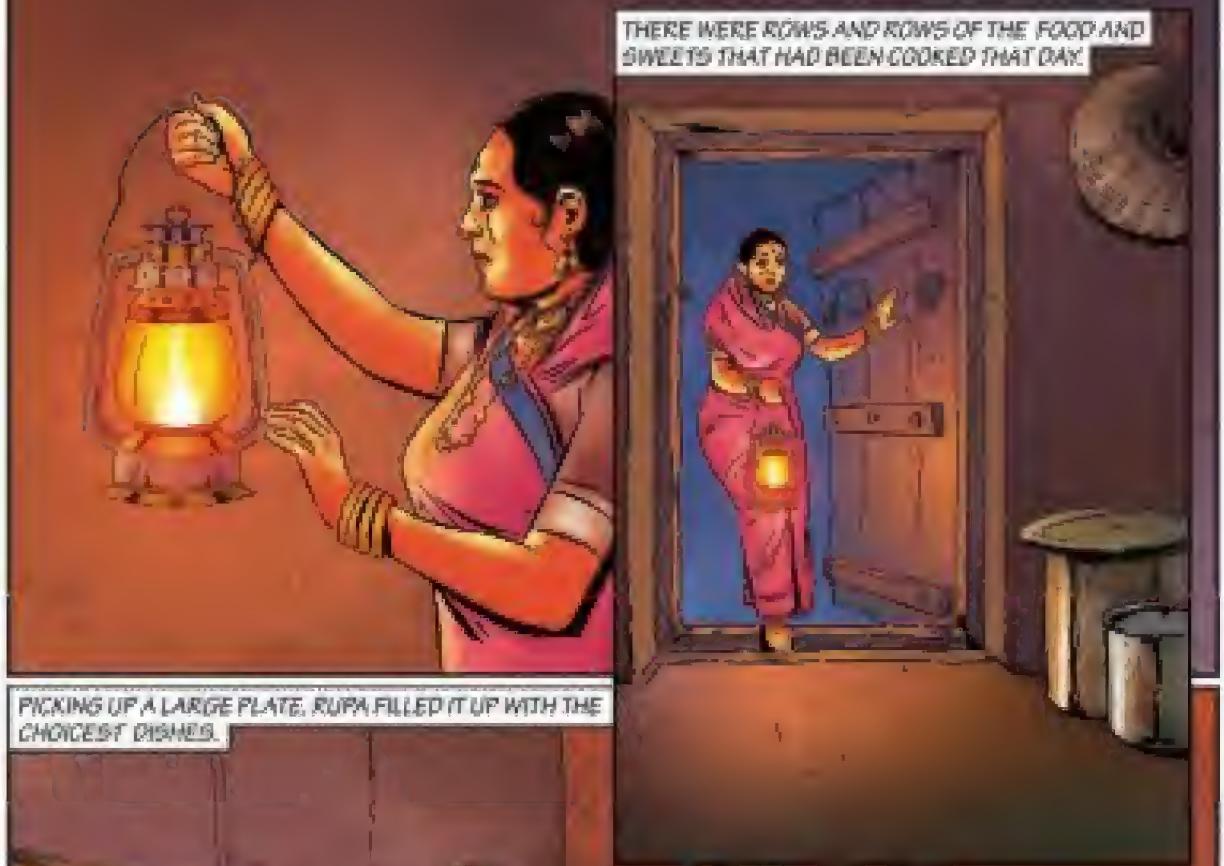


TEARS WELLED UP IN RUPA'S EYES. SHE WAS FILLED WITH FEAR AND SORROW.

MY HUSBAND'S AUNT IS EATING THE LEFTOVER FOOD FROM USED PLATES! DEAR GOD, FORGIVE ME! DO NOT PUNISH ME FOR WHAT I HAVE DONE.



RUPA LIT A LAMP AND WENT TO THE STOREROOM.

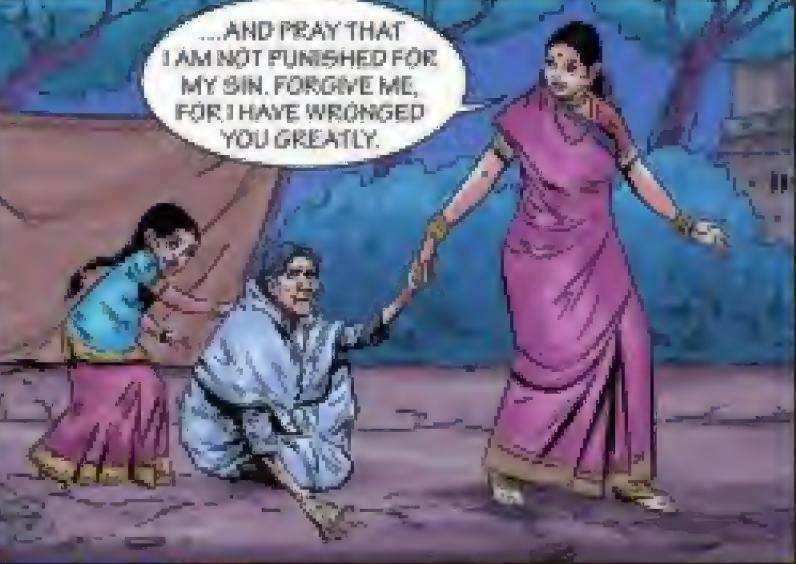


TAKING IT OUTSIDE, SHE PUT IT DOWN ON A MAT. THEN -

GET UP, KARI. COME AND EAT YOUR DINNER...



...AND PRAY THAT I AM NOT PUNISHED FOR MY SIN. FORGIVE ME, FOR I HAVE WRONGED YOU GREATLY.



LIKE A CHILD WHO FORGETS A SCOLDING WHEN GIVEN A SWEET, KARI FORGOT ALL THE WRONG DONE TO HER, AND SETTLED DOWN HAPPILY TO EAT, WITH ALL HER HEART, SHE BLESSED KUPA FOR HER KINDNESS.



KUPA SAT BEFORE HER WATCHING THE WONDERFUL DINNER.

## TWO OXEN

Munshi Premchand (1880 – 1936), one of the most famous writers of the 20th century, was known for his very insightful and accurate portrayal of Indian society. Even though he lived in the beginning of the last century, his stories are relevant to modern life.

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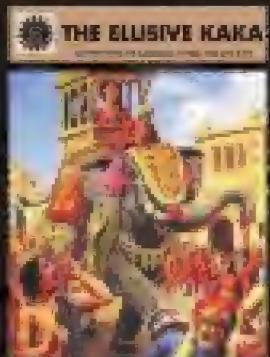
*The Aged Aunt*, or *Budhi Koki*, is the story of the bond between a little girl and her aged and neglected grand-aunt. In a household where Koki is often forgotten and left cold and hungry, it is Laddli who brings her joy with the warmth of her caring.

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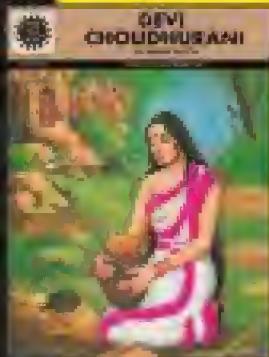
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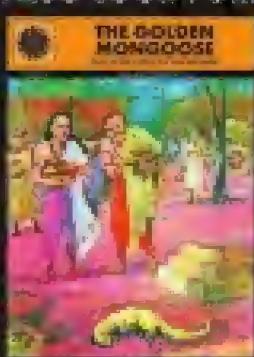


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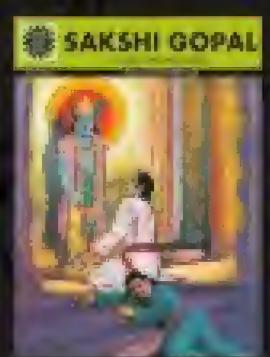


DEVI CHOWDHURANI

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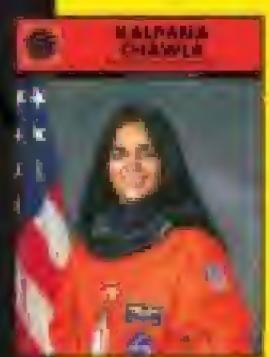
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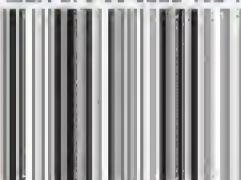
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